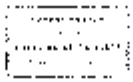
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FORE-WORD

THE WAR of 1870-71 has no parallel on the long list of sanguinary struggles. That record, at once dreary and exciting, begins with the victory of Cuculcan over, and three kings of the Confederation, of which he was the head, over the five contemporary kings who obstinately refused to acknowledge the 'huge enemy' of Cuculcanover. If the latter had remained content with his victory all would have been well with him, but he effected that unjust annexation which brought Abram down upon him with the sword of the Lord, when the victors became, in their turn, the vanquished. The moral of this story has been lost upon kings, governments, and peoples.

In round numbers, this proto-war was waged about two thousand years before Christ. Nearly nine centuries, however, elapsed before soldiers were drawn up in regular line of battle. The inventor of this strategical disposition was that Palamedes who, during the Siege of Troy, had leisure to add four new letters to the Cadmean alphabet, and wit to create the games of dice and backgammon, for the amusement of soldiers in quarters. From the Siege of Troy to the decisive fight at Actium, which gave the Roman Empire to Augustus, thirty-one years before the Christian era, scarcely a generation in the historical world escaped the horrors of war. Perhaps the earliest battle of national importance fought after that era had commenced was the one in Britain, in which the brave Caradoc (Caractacus) was made a prisoner by the Romans, A.D. 51. All the voracious Earth had hoped that the new era would be one of love, peace, and goodwill among men. Men alone have been the obstacles to that consummation. Since the day when Louis Napoleon taught his son at Saarbruck how to slay brave men at a distance, we have had ample proof that Christianity does not mean the same thing as the Church of Christ.

This war has, however, quite as amply proved that valour does not die because of the engines which now inflict death more swiftly and fearfully than of old. The idea that valour would one day turn faint of heart is an ancient, an often revived, and an entirely unfulfilled prophecy. 'Oh, Hercules!' exclaimed a celebrated boxer, when he beheld a dart shot from a newly invented engine brought from Sicily, 'Oh, Hercules, the valour of man is at an end!' But it was not so. Nevertheless, when gunpowder was invented, the oldest reputies shook their heads, and confidently saw in the invention the grave of all courage. The needle-gun, the chassepot, and the mitrailleuse, which have figured so largely in the war which this volume illustrates, have excited as much curiosity

and diversion as the harquebuss did when it was introduced by Mauritz, in the sixteenth century. The harquebuss was to serve a purpose which has never been forgotten in this Franco-German war, from the day of the Crown Prince's onslaught on MacMahon, at Wissembourg—namely, the destruction of officers. The harquebussiers were stationed between the first and second ranks of pikemen. They fired with deliberate aim, just within pike's length. Mauritz was enchanted with the deadly effect this arm produced, till he himself was wounded by one—for it was soon adopted by the enemy. Then, the inventor bewailed the circumstance which exposed a brave man to be stricken by a coward. In later times the German inventor of all sorts of machines for the destruction or mutilation of men made in God's image, was proud of the powers of the needle-gun. It is said that in the brief but bloody struggle in which the Prussians drove Austria out of Germany for ever, the needle-gun could not be discharged so many times in a minute as its inventor expected. It had not the power of slaying or mangling his fellow-creatures that he hoped it had; and, at the thought, the good man burst into tears! He has probably been consoled by being ennobled, exactly as if he had been a benefactor of the human race. He is, at all events, one of the notabilities of this devastating war.

It is a singular but an incontrovertible fact that the history illustrated by the portraits in this volume is only the last chapter of a history which commenced nearly two centuries ago. At that time the ambassador of the King of France took precedence of the Elector of Brandenburg. Now, there is not even a King of the French, but the Elector of Brandenburg has grown into a King of Prussia. He has one hand stretched towards the Imperial crown of Germany, while with the other he throws down his neighbours' land-marks. In the year 1678, the weary and much-suffering world fondly hoped that the Treaty of Nimeguen had secured some breathing time of peace for, at least, the then existing generation; very soon, however, an act was committed the last results of which have perhaps yet to be realised. Louis XIV. found the treaty insupportable, as it obstructed him in seizing from his neighbour what he coveted as an addition to his own greatness. That king enjoys the bad eminence of being, perhaps, the first who could look God steadily in the face and lie. His signature was as worthless as his word; yet he was pious, after a certain fashion. If success crowned the most criminal of his acts he—to use a familiar phrase—patted Providence on the back, and comfortably committed all responsibility to Heaven. Of a season of peace, Louis XIV. made an era of conquest. His tribunals in Metz and Brisac summoned the minor princes of the German Empire, the Elector Palatine, and other potentates holding territory 'convenient' to France, to acknowledge that their tenure was subject to French supremacy. To dispute this was to suffer confiscation. This has been described as something more than a renewal of the Imperial pretensions of Charlemagne himself. The Empire protested, but Louis annexed the towns that he coveted. At last his ministers, Louvois, cast his eyes upon Strasburg, and resolved that the truest, the richest, the most flourishing, and the most German of German cities should belong to France. Nationality was disregarded. Treaties were torn asunder; and it must be added that the local authorities were corrupt. A French force, in full time of peace, invisibly

entered that almost impregnable frontier city, the mistress of the Rhine, which was straightway annexed to France. Ever since that period German wrath has been roused (now silent, now loud-tongued), till it found such fearful expression in German shrapnel-shells and French mitrailleuses, in this culminating war of 1870–71.

One of the saddest features in modern history is the disregard of treaties. The noble French King, John, who died our prisoner, used to say, that if honour perished everywhere else, it should still be found in the bosom of kings. In the present day our old-fashioned notion that the hearts of kings are under a divine rule and governance has been rudely shaken. Kings, kaisers and czars cease to feel bound by their words or signatures as soon as the obligation chafes them. Thereby the moral tone of the people becomes debased. Berlin expresses its impatience that the bombardment of Paris should be delayed; well aware, the while, what inexpressibly horrors are included in that phrase. Even the rumours of wars which are occasionally circulated, are rumours in their course. They also are often illustrative of the lowness of the moral tone among some men abroad in high places. At such rumours the stock market undergoes violent agitation, out of which the authors of the report are well skilled in the art of reaping golden profit. 'Tout est perdu hormis l'honneur,' said Francis I., after his utter defeat at Pavia. In the times in which we now live, ministers and monarchs abroad hold honour cheap, if the loss of it only brings them material gain. War, that is justifiable to avenge wrong, is now avowedly made for an idea. The Imperial idea of Louis Napoleon, that not a cannon shot should be fired in Europe without the consent of France, has cost thousands of lives, and will yet cost more. The soldier maxim is in force which says that—

> They should take who have the power,
> And they should keep who can.

If the Greeks suffered when their Kings went mad, much more anguish is now the result of resorting to the sanguinary arbitrament of war. There seems no shred of pity for the slaughtered and mutilated in the hearts of those who cause the mighty riot, or achieve the bloody triumph. A cruel 'God be thanked,' uttered by a victor as he looks on the crushed humanity on the battle-field before him, cannot be grateful to heaven, but it may stir the very depths of hell to ecstacy.

When the telegraphic message of the capture of Sedan and the downfall of Louis Napoleon reached the Czar Alexander in his box at the opera, he is said to have exclaimed, 'The treaty of 1856 has ceased to exist!' The ink is scarcely dry on the treaty by which Prussia bound herself to respect the neutrality of Luxembourg, when her minister and monarch fling off the light restraints of truth and honour, and lust of plunder follows lust of blood. Poor Morality may affect inability to understand why the low-born hero should end his career at Tyburn, while a similar hero of more exalted birth should be all but Deified. The difference of birth establishes the difference between the men

and their respective rights. The Robber argued the matter with Alexander, in the famous dialogue: but the King of Men was not much moved by his arguments, simply because he was King and Master of men. As it was then, so is it now. The King of Prussia is both king and master of men. In Prussia a man, from the crown of his head to the sole of his foot, belongs to his king and master. He is a chattel to be used, crushed, or destroyed, according as he may be wanted. He is only lent to his parents' affection. He is nothing more than an honorary member of the family circle. He in no view belongs to her to whom he foolishly promises to be hers and hers only, for ever. Least of all does he belong to himself: for, if age exempts him from butchering or being butchered, he has to yield up his sons, whose stronger arms may destroy life or defend their own in some bloody quarrel brought on by the greed of their master, or by the ambition of that other master, an unscrupulous minister.

Yet war may be, in some cases, justifiable, and even necessary. Only a score of years ago it was fondly thought that International Exhibitions had rendered war almost impossible. The nations who entertained that thought did not reckon on the insatiable ambition of individuals. When Denmark was frivolously attacked by Prussia the latter power incurred the responsibility of all the consequences of all the blood since shed, of all the ruin and devastation that have followed. Our fullest sympathy was with Denmark, and with its King, till he accepted a 'decoration' from the Prussian sovereign, by whom his gallant country had been wrecked! At Sadowa Prussia humiliated her confederate in that crime: and Sadowa aroused the mad ambition of France. Wrong begat wrong. The French Emperor hoped to save his dynasty by plausibly appealing to his feverish people the old pretexts of 'glory.' M. Ollivier, Dr Cæsar Lôgre, endorsed his master's hopes, and France plunged headlong into the struggle without further provocation. The Gauls set out to invade and devastate Germany, singing and shouting the words of the old song, 'Le jour de gloire est arrivé!' The Germans, with more dignity, chanted their patriotic hymn to their fatherland, and addressed themselves less to glory than to duty. They drove back the invaders, from the Rhine to the walls of Paris.

The heroic has not been wanting on either side. But France acknowledges no heroism, even in her own sons, that falls short of success. Her adversaries, and the world in general, act more justly, not acknowledging that misfortune and treason are convertible terms. France makes her great gods only to break them after a score of years. In affairs of government, what in England would be a legitimate opposition, a body of reformers, is in France a band of destroyers. She is as much the dupe of unprincipled feuilletonists as she may be the slave of a despot. In France everything may happen, but nothing lasts. Patriotism has almost invariably been too weak to save what party and party-spirit, and the selfish divisions of party-spirit, had recklessly lost. From the era of the *Aristocrats* to that of the *Moderates*, the gallant French people have been the victims, more or less, of corrupt, indifferent, designing, or reckless rulers. But they do not stand alone in this respect. There is scarcely a

nation whose people may not say of the contests into which they have been forced by their respective governments, that those wars were undertaken to prevent what might never happen, and which, if it did happen, would be infinitely less disastrous than the *consequences* of war. France, however, has been the supreme sufferer in wars of ambition. Her glory has been so costly as to be, in its results, equal to ruin. Her cypress covers wider at withering her laurels, and the Bonapartes have shed more French blood from first to last, than all the Kings of France together, from the earliest to the latest Bourbon. It was Mirabeau who said that, by keeping Frenchmen at war, you could dispense with governing them. This infamous maxim is less immoral than that of the African King, who excused his tyranny by remarking that his people were like rats in a basket—it was necessary to keep shaking them violently in order to prevent them from destroying one another. In either case, the people suffered.

After all, the true heroes both of France and Germany have yet to come. We may have long to wait for them. They may not appear until war cannot be made as now, at the mere will of a sovereign. The people have no voice in the matter. The issues of this struggle should, however, tend to give them one. As it is, all responsibility is laid upon the people. Louis Napoleon justified his aggression against Germany, for which he had had four years' preparation, on the ground of the popular acclaim. Prussia, which was never faithful to a friend or generous to a foe, stimulated the popular antipathies of the country against the French. When international sympathies are cultivated with half such earnestness, and the soldier nails his true place far lower down on the social scale that at present, nations may hope for that presently apparent impossibility—a millennium of peace. Meanwhile, France has to learn the value of truthfulness: to understand what liberty means, as regards herself, and in what measure she is bound to respect it in other nations. Germany, on the other hand, has yet the greatest of all her victories to accomplish. She has yet to achieve her freedom. A Prussian mother's joy at the birth of a son is darkened by the thought of how early he may be made a sacrifice to the bloodlust of a Prussian king. Such sons are the born serfs of feudalism, and their bondage is not confined to their liability to yield up their lives when summoned. They are compelled to shape their lives under restrictions which inspire free men with contempt and indignation. It would be the worst of catastrophes for the Germans, if, after their conquests in France, they failed to overthrow feudalism in Germany. They have proved themselves true soldiers. They deserve to have the privileges of men. It would be the saddest of spectacles, if they should sink into a mere Empire of heroic slaves.

J. DORAN.

THE CHRONICLE OF THE WAR.

[illegible]

By HENRY HOLL.

DECLARATION OF WAR.

[illegible]

[illegible] the 19th of July, France declared war against Prussia.

No question [illegible] France against her old enemy. The [illegible]

[illegible]

AT METZ.

[illegible]

[illegible] from Nancy and the west of the [illegible] Department, and the Rhine, with a force of [illegible] men, under the command of General [illegible]. Special attention was paid to the [illegible] of the Rhine, and the [illegible] was [illegible] by the Duke of [illegible] in person.

[illegible] of the Austrians on the [illegible] of the Rhine, [illegible] the [illegible] of the Austrians, [illegible] the [illegible] of the Austrians, [illegible] the [illegible] of the Austrians

THE BATTLES OF WEISSENBURG AND WORTH.

[illegible]

BATTLE OF FORBACH.

[illegible]

[illegible] the day the [illegible], and [illegible] of the [illegible] army of Prince Frederick Charles [illegible]. The [illegible] many [illegible] the [illegible] were still [illegible] of the French, the Germans [illegible] but [illegible] considerable loss, until at last the French [illegible] way before the numbers [illegible] which [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the French [illegible] the [illegible] flanks. [illegible]

At [illegible] from the [illegible] of Steinmetz [illegible] appeared upon the [illegible] and [illegible] leaving [illegible] the enemy.

This victory [illegible] for the Prussian [illegible] [illegible] The results of the two engagements of Wörth and Forbach [illegible] the whole French [illegible] and revealed the [illegible] of strategy [illegible] by the French [illegible]. The [illegible] of the [illegible] had been broken through [illegible] [illegible] the right wing [illegible] MacMahon [illegible] De Failly's corps [illegible] by [illegible] at Wörth [illegible] the [illegible] and the [illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] of Germany [illegible] across the [illegible] the [illegible].

After the terrible defeat [illegible] at Wörth, MacMahon's [illegible] large portion [illegible] towards [illegible] and [illegible] of the troops were [illegible] the [illegible] at the [illegible] the Marshal [illegible] De Failly's corps [illegible] army [illegible] at Niederbronn [illegible] the Germans [illegible] upon Saverne. Here, [illegible] as well as he could, the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] to [illegible] Lunéville, but was compelled [illegible] the movement.

[illegible] of the [illegible] between the [illegible] the [illegible] of Metz. [illegible] all but [illegible] at [illegible] [illegible] to rejoin MacMahon [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]

THE BATTLE BEFORE METZ.

[illegible] the [illegible] of his corps towards Metz [illegible] St. Avold [illegible] [illegible] Metz. [illegible] the [illegible] Metz in order [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the Imperial [illegible] Metz, a part of the [illegible] corps of [illegible] [illegible] As for [illegible] corps [illegible] of Douay, it [illegible] the division of [illegible] at Wörth [illegible] the scene of operations [illegible].

Such was the position of the [illegible] after the [illegible] [illegible] taken, and [illegible] the principal [illegible] from Metz [illegible] with between [illegible] guns, was well known to be [illegible] When it [illegible] separated from its supports, [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] already [illegible] the [illegible] of Wörth [illegible] the [illegible] of MacMahon. [illegible] [illegible] men [illegible] the [illegible] and Prince Frederick Charles were [illegible] from [illegible] the [illegible] with them [illegible] the [illegible] of the Vosges, and [illegible] Châlons.

The whole French army, except, [illegible], the [illegible] of MacMahon, De Failly, and Douay, was [illegible] under the guns of Metz on [illegible] of August, [illegible] the delay of

[illegible]

BATTLE OF VIONVILLE

[illegible]

THE BATTLE OF GRAVELOTTE

THE MARCH ON SEDAN

[illegible] M. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

BATTLE OF SEDAN, AND SURRENDER OF THE EMPEROR.

Such was the [illegible] battle of Sedan, one of the darkest spots in the [illegible] annals of the military glories and disasters of France. Neither Crecy, nor Agincourt, nor Pavia, nor St. Quentin, nor Blenheim, nor Waterloo [illegible] in modern history [illegible]. The losses of the Germans were comparatively small, [illegible] as a proof of the [illegible] of M. MacMahon's [illegible]. The French army was simply annihilated [illegible] by the victors.

SURRENDER OF THE EMPEROR AND McMAHON'S ARMY.

The scenes that [illegible] will long be remembered as among the most [illegible] of the war. For some time the [illegible] on the [illegible], when [illegible] was [illegible] from the [illegible] walls, and a [illegible] parley. But [illegible] the [illegible] the Prussians recognised the first [illegible]. After a few dropping shots [illegible] ceased, and then, [illegible] the smoke of battle had [illegible] such as can only be given [illegible] additional [illegible] upon the wounded French, who must have felt that they had given their blood in vain, while the victorious Prussians, lying beside them, [illegible] the [illegible] of joy.

Night closed upon [illegible]. [illegible] the dead and dying [illegible] the French and Prussian soldiers strewed the ground. Horses [illegible] wrecks of [illegible] carts, knapsacks, [illegible] lay everywhere — [illegible] sign of the dreadful struggle that [illegible] so long and so fatally around those [illegible] heights, hamlets, and valleys; the wounded, groaning as they lay, [illegible] waiting for the arrival of the [illegible]; while Prussian and French medical officers, going over the field together, endeavoured to relieve the sufferings of those most badly hurt.

Here lay the [illegible] with their bright uniforms [illegible] blood, and their [illegible] little [illegible] by Prussian shells. Most of the [illegible] on the ground were dead, but some [illegible] wounded, yet [illegible] planted beside them as a means of [illegible] the surgeon's attention when he should have time to [illegible] them. [illegible] being [illegible] a stray horse, slightly wounded, stood [illegible] here and there, [illegible]. Behind the scene of the [illegible] charge [illegible] that separates the [illegible] of the [illegible] ground from that immediately above Sedan. In the [illegible] there had been great slaughter at the end of the fight, when the [illegible]. [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] and it had been clear [illegible] that the [illegible]. Considerable bodies of troops [illegible] from Sedan [illegible] the advance of the Prussians, and tried to break through [illegible], but had been [illegible] the whole of the [illegible] at the back of the [illegible] of the [illegible] German artillery, which had [illegible] as soon as the [illegible] of the attack became [illegible]. Nearly [illegible] than [illegible] not less than two hundred thousand of the [illegible].

The ghastly wounds inflicted on most of the French showed that they had fallen under an artillery fire, and the ground was in many places so ploughed up that a blanket could scarcely have been laid on it without touching some spot where a shell had exploded. The [illegible] at the back of the [illegible] abandoned [illegible] had been [illegible] still very [illegible] Sedan, where the French had fought. [illegible] and the streets presented [illegible] of French and [illegible] were being [illegible] by the [illegible]. Many yet [illegible] terribly [illegible] beyond [illegible] that many [illegible] had been [illegible] upon them

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

the Emperor's [illegible] in Germany, [illegible] of the [illegible].

When the news of the [illegible] spread, cries loud and deep broke forth from the armed crowds which had been waiting [illegible] of "[illegible]" and "[illegible]" were heard, while some destroyed and [illegible] the eagles, [illegible] their own [illegible]. But the [illegible] was the [illegible], broken into [illegible] masses, was [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible], [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible], [illegible] the Emperor, Marshal MacMahon, the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

AT PARIS.

The [illegible] that the [illegible] and the [illegible] of M. MacMahon's army [illegible] was received in Paris [illegible] [illegible] to prevent the whole of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] through the streets of the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] of the people [illegible] the [illegible] of a [illegible] Government of National Defence. [illegible] of the Legislative Body, the [illegible] and floor of the House were invaded by the people, who demanded the deposition of the Emperor and a Republic.

[illegible] [illegible]. The populace, National Guard, and soldiers, fraternised and [illegible], [illegible] of the streets were taken [illegible] of by [illegible] crowds, singing the Marseillaise, and shouting "Vive la France!" "Vive la République!" [illegible] of the National Guard [illegible] their caps and responded to the [illegible]. The Imperial flag was pulled down at the Tuileries, into which the people had forced their way; [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] and tossed [illegible] the windows, [illegible] the [illegible] of the Empire [illegible] thrown [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] turned [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the Napoleon dynasty, and [illegible] Republic.

[illegible] September [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] the [illegible]. It was [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] for the people [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the Empress [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to escape.

[illegible] the [illegible] was proclaimed, and the New Ministry was [illegible] as follows:—

General Trochu—President of the Government, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the National Defence.
M. Jules Favre—Minister of Foreign Affairs.
M. Gambetta—Minister of the Interior.
General Le Flô—Minister of War.
M. Fourichon—Minister of Marine.
M. Crémieux—Minister of Justice.
M. Picard—Minister of Finance.
M. Jules Simon—Minister of Public Instruction and Religion.
M. Magnin—Minister of Agriculture.
M. Dorian—Minister of Public Works.

A general amnesty was issued for political and other offences, and [illegible] the [illegible] of General Trochu [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] their determination [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

FROM SEDAN TO THE FALL OF STRASBURG.

In the mean time, and while these disasters were [illegible] taking place so fatal to the French arms, Marshal Bazaine had not been idle. On August 31st he made a desperate attempt to escape from Metz in the direction of St. [illegible], but though his troops [illegible] bravely, he was driven back at all points by the 1st Army Corps and the Division of General Kummer [illegible]. The battle lasted all day and night, but the success of the Germans was complete, and Bazaine had the mortification to see his soldiers repulsed, and [illegible] compelled to seek refuge under the guns of the fortress.

The army under McMahon having thus [illegible], and that under Bazaine being shut up in Metz, [illegible] by the victorious troops of the "Red Prince," the German armies under the command of the King and the Crown Prince of Prussia, pushed on in the direction of Paris, and [illegible] spread consternation in France, entered [illegible] without opposition, the garrison having retreated, [illegible] that the Uhlans were coming [illegible]. [illegible], however, preparations were made for a defence, the [illegible] and [illegible] along the [illegible] Charles [illegible] the [illegible]. Orders were given that the gates should be [illegible] closed [illegible] the Mobiles. St. Dizier was occupied by [illegible] Prussians, while the light cavalry [illegible] Chateau Thierry and Meaux, [illegible] of the Marne [illegible] army, so that now the [illegible] being brought up to advance by [illegible] Soissons.

[illegible] had been [illegible] early in August, [illegible] the 2nd [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible]. [illegible] and the [illegible] of shells [illegible] among the [illegible] of [illegible], who [illegible] looking [illegible] with [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] all [illegible]. But the [illegible] had only just begun. New [illegible] being [illegible] and heavier guns [illegible] in position, and [illegible] many days, unless General Uhrich surrendered, it might be expected that the [illegible] of fire which would then fall [illegible] and [illegible] buildings would be [illegible] and [illegible] be expected [illegible] of the losses. Desperate efforts were made by the besieged to [illegible] the progress of [illegible] and sorties were of frequent occurrence, but nothing appeared to retard the efforts of the Germans to subdue the place. Beaten back at all points, and overwhelmed by a destructive fire, the [illegible] were in extremity, and the [illegible] fall of the town a question only of time, as the second parallel had now been completed, and the defences of [illegible] were [illegible].

The army which had [illegible], [illegible] under the command of the Crown Prince of Prussia [illegible] Soissons, [illegible] of [illegible] a force of [illegible] men, and then pressed towards Paris by Villers Cotterets. [illegible] the [illegible] Army Corps, [illegible] were sent [illegible] the [illegible], followed by two other Army Corps under the Crown Prince of Prussia. [illegible] a force of at least [illegible] was expected to [illegible] positions at [illegible] twenty-five miles distance from Paris, [illegible] the [illegible]. [illegible] made the [illegible] the main [illegible] roads, the [illegible] the [illegible] of the Marne, [illegible] Meaux [illegible] they were marching [illegible] on the [illegible] and the [illegible] on the [illegible] to the east of the [illegible] Chateau Thierry [illegible] to the west of [illegible]. A [illegible] of the map will show that the Prussians were already in possession of the roads [illegible] of Paris, [illegible] Troyes and Chalons [illegible].

[illegible] of the country from the Moselle and the Meuse to [illegible] in a [illegible] state. [illegible], [illegible] a [illegible] standing on a [illegible] the [illegible] of a [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] command, General D'Uhrich, [illegible] the citadel, which the Prussians entered at [illegible] and set [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] was heard. A [illegible] the citadel, [illegible] the Prussian [illegible] of Prussian [illegible] and a [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible]

[illegible] defence.

On September 19th the Crown Prince of Prussia [illegible]

On the same day, September 19th, in which the [illegible]

[illegible] of Versailles [illegible] the Crown Prince [illegible] St. Cloud, Thiais, and Versailles [illegible] the Provisional Government [illegible] Paris [illegible] the Provisional Government [illegible] Paris was [illegible]

[illegible] General [illegible] the Provisional Government [illegible] September [illegible] General Mont[illegible] the town was [illegible] General [illegible] the Prussians [illegible]

Closely [illegible] Strasbourg [illegible] General Werder [illegible]

The [illegible] General Uhrich [illegible] the German [illegible] the French [illegible] Metz [illegible]

[illegible] Many of the men [illegible] the Prussian [illegible] Some [illegible] Just as at Strasbourg [illegible] Metz [illegible] the German [illegible]

The fall of Strasbourg [illegible] France [illegible] Metz [illegible] Louis XIV. [illegible] the Grand Monarque.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

the Prince Napoleon, were founded by German rumours, and if they had [illegible] at [illegible] it was only [illegible] that [illegible] never [illegible], and that they did not come to [illegible] of the smaller [illegible] of the Imperial Court.

On the 29th the German [illegible] entered Orleans. The departments of the Seine and Marne were already in their hands, and Clermont-en-Oise was [illegible] by a German military force. [illegible] under the command of General Vogel Von Falckenstein, were passing through Alsace on their road to Lyons. The Prussians were massed before Soissons, and though several attacks had been made they had been driven back. Shot and shell were being fired into the town, and it was expected that before long that important military position, commanding as it did the passage over the Aisne, would be compelled to surrender, and [illegible] to [illegible] the fire of the Prussian batteries.

As a military operation, the siege of Paris is wholly without precedent in modern warfare. It presented a long [illegible]. What we know is that everything had been done that could [illegible] to put Paris in a state of defence. General Trochu had been indefatigable, and had been [illegible] by the other members of the Government, and by the temper of the people. The [illegible] of Paris [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] which [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] had been [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the defenders [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. What [illegible] that [illegible] Paris [illegible] from the world [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the enemy [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] people.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of Paris, and if they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at the same time, [illegible] [illegible]

and [illegible] [illegible] the privations of a siege. That [illegible] [illegible] of men [illegible] [illegible] of family ties, and respect and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the skirts of [illegible] civilisation, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the presence of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] danger [illegible]. General Trochu [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] power, [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] by the [illegible] and [illegible] of a siege. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] It was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Paris [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Germans [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. They [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the shelter of the forts [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a fairly [illegible] [illegible]. The [illegible] of [illegible] of Paris [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Paris [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] of the King of [illegible] [illegible] between St. Denis and [illegible]. On October the [illegible] [illegible] at [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Prussians [illegible] [illegible] of Orleans [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] all the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Metz [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Yet, in the [illegible]

As [illegible] [illegible] of M. [illegible],

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Mézières [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

THE BATTLE OF MÉZIÈRES.

This [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Metz [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

A [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Metz [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] surrender of Metz, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The morning [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Metz [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Moselle [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and the village of [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

THE SIEGE OF PARIS TO THE SURRENDER OF METZ

[illegible]

H

[illegible]

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

[illegible]

[illegible]

SORTIES FROM PARIS AND THE ARMY OF THE LOIRE.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE ARMIES OF ITALY AND THE ARCHDUKE OF PARMA.

at Nevers, against the remnant of the Army of the Loire. And on the 7th, at Beaugency, there was a victory of a portion of the Army Division of the Duke of Mecklenburg and of the [illegible] Army Corps, when the town of Beaugency was occupied, and [illegible] prisoners and six guns were taken. A [illegible] remnant of the Second Army, which was [illegible] upon the road to Bourges. Romorantin, Vierzon, and Bourges were occupied, and the important railway junction at Vierzon was at the same time occupied by German troops, who also entered Dieppe, Pont Audemer, and Fécamp.

Phalsbourg capitulated on the 12th. The fortress of [illegible] was attacked; it was the [illegible]; [illegible] officers, [illegible] men, and [illegible] guns were captured. [illegible] was occupied on the 14th, and on the 15th Montmédy capitulated, yielding the Germans 65 guns and [illegible] prisoners. The French evacuated Vendôme on the 16th, and on the same day General Goltz attacked a force of 8,000 men that occupied a strong position at Longeau, and after an engagement which lasted three hours, drove the French forces with considerable loss. On the 18th General Glümer, commanding two Baden Brigades, stormed the [illegible] of Nuits, where the French, under their new commander General Cremer, occupied strong positions, which they defended very [illegible], but withdrew after the capture of Nuits [illegible]. The German loss was [illegible] large; [illegible] officers were killed [illegible] wounded, and [illegible] men were [illegible]. The French were [illegible] to have lost many officers and 1,000 men killed, besides sixteen officers and [illegible] unwounded prisoners who fell into the hands of the Germans, who also took three ammunition waggons, [illegible] carriages, and a large number of rifles. General Chanzy was falling back upon Le Mans after the defeat at Beaugency, [illegible] but was not pursued by Prince Frederick Charles, whose object had been to hold Orleans and [illegible] the besiegers of Paris against attacks from Bourges, where Bourbaki was said to have had an army of [illegible] men.

On the 21st a German Division advanced on Tours, which they entered after a [illegible] resistance; and early on the morning of the same day the Paris garrison, led by General Ducrot, made a sortie with three divisions and 18 field batteries, on the [illegible] of the 12th German Corps, and attacked Le Bourget, Drancy, and Bondy. They took Le Bourget and Stains, and continued their advance while the Germans were bringing up their forces, when the latter opposed 12 battalions to the French 48 along the line from [illegible] to Sevran. [illegible] the French [illegible], but after [illegible] the steady German fire began to tell. Le Bourget was retaken by two battalions of the [illegible], and one battalion of the Augusta Regiment, while the [illegible] battalions of the [illegible] of the Guards drove [illegible] which left behind more than 1,000 unwounded prisoners. A similar attempt was made by two French brigades along the Marne against the left wing of the Saxon Army Corps, but they were forced to retire by the fire of the Wurtemberg Regiments. The failure of the sortie was not accepted by General Ducrot as a decisive defeat, and the French infantry [illegible] out for three nights on the positions they had [illegible], the mercury on the thermometer [illegible] points below zero, a temperature to which the exposed [illegible] the troops, who were badly clothed [illegible] after which they broke up their bivouacs, and fell back on Paris.

On Friday, the 23rd, an [illegible] fight between the Army of the North under General Faidherbe and the First German Army under General Manteuffel, who attempted to dislodge the French from a line of positions, which they had taken up on the small [illegible] Hallue, near Amiens. The French General with an army of [illegible] men, held the villages of Bavelincourt, Montigny, Fréchencourt, Querrieux, Pont-Noyelles, Bussy, Daours, and Vecquemont. His army was well supplied with artillery, and was twice as [illegible] as the army opposed to it. The attack was made by General Manteuffel, [illegible] from Amiens, and for some hours the battle consisted of a heavy [illegible], after which the villages were [illegible] stormed by the Germans, and the French were driven across the valley of the Hallue with heavy losses, leaving 1,000 unwounded prisoners in the hands of the Germans. The battle was fought in a [illegible], [illegible] the troops, while the [illegible] that had fallen [illegible] the difficulties of bivouacking. General Faidherbe retreated on Arras, one of the strongest citadels in France, and the young troops suffered much from the severity of the weather and the privations inevitable on the [illegible] levies. The bread which was [illegible] to the men on the battlefield was frozen and [illegible], and the supplies of all kinds were of the most miserable description.

The bombardment of the Paris forts was opened on December 27th by an attack on Mont Avron,

which was occupied by the 12th Saxon Army Corps, after one day's bombardment; [illegible] the Germans [illegible] the military station of [illegible], and [illegible] the French artillery in position at [illegible], while the [illegible] fire directed against the forts of Nogent, Rosny, and Nogent, was continued vigorously. In the North of France a small engagement had taken place in the neighbourhood of [illegible], in which a [illegible] of [illegible] was [illegible] and [illegible] prisoners; and in the North-west, on the 31st, five [illegible] of the First German Division were attached to [illegible] Rouen [illegible] a French Brigade that had advanced from the North of France to [illegible], [illegible] partly [illegible] the fortified castle of Robert le Diable, which was [illegible] taken by storm, when numbers of the French were killed and [illegible] taken prisoners.

[illegible] one of [illegible] strongest [illegible] had been [illegible] the [illegible] artillery [illegible] in [illegible] the French [illegible] in January 1st, strengthening the hold of the Germans upon the Departments [illegible] and [illegible] was [illegible] by [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] on which they were [illegible] at the same time that a [illegible] under [illegible] Charles [illegible] towards the Loire, attacked the [illegible] General [illegible] on the river before Vendôme. [illegible] the French, [illegible] two days before, a [illegible] German [illegible] took five officers and 230 men at [illegible], North of Arras, [illegible] to Bapaume.

On January 2nd, a severe action took place between the Army of the North under General Faidherbe, and the Germans under General Von Manteuffel. The French took the offensive [illegible] the 3rd [illegible] prisoners. On the 3rd, the battle was renewed, General Von Goeben with [illegible] Division, [illegible] of the Army of the North [illegible] 300 prisoners were taken, and the German Cavalry pursued the French, [illegible] in the direction of Arras and Douay, while early on the same morning General [illegible], with the troops of the 1st Army Corps attacked the French on the left bank of the river Seine, and captured two [illegible], flags, and 300 prisoners. On the 5th Rocroi surrendered to the Germans, the garrison having retired on Givet.

[illegible] remaining in that part of France.

The Paris forts meanwhile were being severely [illegible], and the [illegible] the South side of Paris bombarded [illegible], at the same time that the bombardment of the North and East forts [illegible] vigorously, partly from the [illegible] and partly from the newly-erected German batteries. A series of conflicts in the [illegible] North of France also took place, resulting [illegible] in German [illegible]; among others [illegible] an engagement on the 6th at [illegible], and [illegible], where [illegible] and [illegible]; on the 9th, General Von [illegible] Villersexel, [illegible] the [illegible] Corps, while [illegible] West of Vendôme, the Germans [illegible] following up the army of General Chanzy, [illegible] beyond the [illegible] they took [illegible] prisoners. On the 10th, [illegible] when the [illegible] prisoners of war; and on January 9th, General Werder had [illegible] with the troops of General Bourbaki, at Villersexel, [illegible] South of Vesoul, when [illegible] General Manteuffel [illegible] of the First Army to [illegible] the command of [illegible] the [illegible] German Army [illegible] Werder with the 14th [illegible] Army Corps, it was expected that he would not only [illegible] Belfort [illegible] which was [illegible] by the Germans [illegible].

One of the most important events of the war, since the fall of Metz, has here to be recorded. On [illegible] the Germans, under the command of Prince Frederick Charles and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, defeated the Second Army of the Loire, under General Chanzy, [illegible] in several engagements [illegible] which General Chanzy's losses were very considerable, [illegible] prisoners [illegible] and [illegible] taken by the [illegible] of the German [illegible]. Notwithstanding this [illegible] General Chanzy [illegible] fight [illegible] again, and on Wednesday, the 11th, very severe fighting again took place, [illegible] the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg's Corps, [illegible] of Prince Frederick Charles' army, [illegible] from [illegible], [illegible] the [illegible] upon Le Mans, and [illegible] the French [illegible].

[illegible] the Duke of Brunswick, [illegible] Count Clermont, [illegible] Duke de Lauzun, and [illegible] Duke de Biron, all of which he was to have, and took [illegible] prisoners, many guns and [illegible] Brunswick, and on the 16th, after a severe engagement with General [illegible], he defeated the Austrians between [illegible] and [illegible], only with the loss of [illegible] killed and wounded.

The capture of Longwy and Verdun [illegible] the people for General Clerfayt's conviction in the [illegible] Brabant, of the 16th of many thousands [illegible] with a little, compelled him to abandon the Meuse, and to march his main army with the Duke and the [illegible] army, to endeavour to [illegible] the siege of Maestricht, the passages of its bridges of boats, waggons, and provisions, which [illegible] and [illegible] of the worst kind. [illegible] the Meuse to the [illegible] Austrian Army. On the 10th he [illegible] the attack of a strong [illegible], guarded by [illegible] other [illegible] Corps, which [illegible] the [illegible] of the Meuse, [illegible] Liege, [illegible] of the West, in which [illegible] at St. Trond, [illegible], large stores of all kinds [illegible].

On the 12th the main body of troops under the command of Prince Frederick Charles on the left of the Austrian army, [illegible] in [illegible] with the [illegible] of the Austrian Netherlands, [illegible] General Gilgenau, at Tirlemont, [illegible] and [illegible] to advance, with the [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] the [illegible] of Prince Cobourg's army. During the [illegible] of the 13th, [illegible] the Austrian [illegible] without [illegible] the [illegible] of the Duke, the Red Prince had [illegible] to [illegible] in consequence of the [illegible] of the Austrian army, but [illegible] by the [illegible] and active [illegible] of the Austrian [illegible], [illegible] the [illegible] of the Austrian [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

available moment was allowed to pass by, while the enemy, approached by degrees, was able to concentrate his forces to meet them. The defeat of Faidherbe was the defeat of the whole French force in the East of [illegible], for to his enterprise every [illegible] that [illegible] for [illegible] purpose was pledged. There was now, for the first time in three months, no army of any importance [illegible] directed to the relief of Paris, for Faidherbe's movements were thus perplexed and [illegible] danger to the besiegers. The prospect was sufficiently gloomy, and [illegible] administration.

In the meantime, disastrous events, on all sides [illegible] the French arms, coming now, in order of succession, the defeat of the Army of the North before St. Quentin. On the 18th the First German Army drove the advanced divisions of the Army of the North from Beauvois to St. Quentin, and took from them one gun and 500 unwounded prisoners; and on the 19th General Von Goeben, who now commanded in the place of Manteuffel, attacked the French Army in front of St. Quentin, and after a battle, which lasted seven hours, drove it out of all its positions, and at the end of an obstinate engagement, into St. Quentin, where he took two guns and 4,000 unwounded prisoners. By this fresh calamity, it would appear, that the three armies destined for the relief of Paris had been beaten, and thrown in confusion before the [illegible] sweep of their conquerors.

Faidherbe's army was shattered. He had prepared to [illegible] defeat by [illegible] his lines south and south-west of St. Quentin, across [illegible]. The two portions of his army were thus severally attacked by strong columns of the enemy, without their being able to [illegible] each other the least assistance. The Germans made [illegible] use of their artillery, which was always in the place where it was wanted, and though the 22nd French Corps, which was composed of a large proportion of regular troops, fought well for six hours, it was compelled to retreat; while the [illegible] of Mobiles and Mobilised Guards gave way at the first attack, and retired in confusion. The French line of retreat lay through the town of St. Quentin, but the Prussians bombarded the place while the troops were marching through the streets, and then, storming the railway station, entered the town, pursued them, and took 10,000 prisoners and ten guns.

On the 21st, a detachment of the German Army of the South, after a slight engagement, occupied Dôle and captured 230 [illegible] waggons laden with provisions, forage and clothing; but on the same [illegible] the railway bridge over the Moselle between Nancy and Toul, was blown up by a band of Francs-tireurs, causing the Germans serious inconvenience for such time as it could be restored. On the 23rd divisions of the Army of the South crossed [illegible] Doubs to the south of Besançon, in the rear of the army of General Bourbaki, [illegible] railway waggons [illegible] some of them laden with provisions were captured at the railway station of [illegible], while on the 25th Longwy capitulated, with 4,000 prisoners and 200 guns were captured, and the Germans entered the fortress the same day at noon.*

It will thus be seen that, since the 1st of September and irrespective of the capitulation of Metz and Strasburg, the Germans had taken over [illegible] prisoners, and [illegible] guns in the open field. The fortresses of Toul, [illegible], the citadels of Amiens, Thionville, [illegible], Montmédy, Mézières, Rocroy, Péronne, Phalsbourg, Schlestadt, and Neu-Breisach had been [illegible]. Longwy had now to be added to the list, and [illegible] from the fall of Rouen, the large number of [illegible] the number of [illegible] towns and cities taken by the Germans was truly formidable, and [illegible] to prove the magnitude of their success.

The [illegible] kept up [illegible] and though [illegible] made [illegible] St. Denis was fired [illegible] in the way of [illegible] had failed, the rate of mortality in the city had [illegible], and [illegible] began to [illegible] among certain sections of the people [illegible] the various departments of France [illegible] increased.

* [illegible]

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, Lord Privy Seal, Secretaries of State, the Commander-in-Chief, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chief Justices of the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas, the Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and the Master of the Rolls, are sworn of the Privy Council. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, Lord Privy Seal, Secretaries of State, Commander-in-Chief, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Chief Justices of the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and Master of the Rolls, are sworn of the Privy Council. The Lord Chancellor, Lord Treasurer, Lord Privy Seal, Secretaries of State, Commander-in-Chief, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Chief Justices of the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and Master of the Rolls, are sworn of the Privy Council.

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